

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF MAY 4TH, 1932.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board of Public Works, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on May 4th, 1932.

## PRESENT:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor.  
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.  
John M. Dennis, Treasurer.

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Mr. L. H. Fowler, the architect selected for the Memorial Hall of Records building at Annapolis, appeared before the Board at the invitation of the Governor to discuss the proposed building.

After reciting the various incidents leading up to the reason for the erection of the building, Mr. Fowler was advised that the building would necessarily have to have the Colonial atmosphere, but that as far as utility was concerned it was desired to make as much use of the building as possible. He was advised to consult with Mr. George R. Callis, a member of the Maryland Tercentenary Commission, with Mr. William L. Marbury, Chairman of the Commission, with Mr. Hall Pleasants, and with other members of the Commission, with a view to securing their ideas, after which he would again consult with the Board of Public Works, through Mr. Gordy, before making definite plans for the building.

*incl.*  
The Governor stated that the Attorney General had taken up with him the question of paying bills for expenses incurred in connection with the Salisbury lynching case. The Governor said he would first take the matter up with Attorney General Lane to see if the expenses could be paid out of the budget of the State Law Department, if not, it would have to be considered whether they could be paid out of the Contingent Fund of the Board of Public Works.

Mr. Gordy took up with the Board the question of the purchase of a locomotive for Springfield State Hospital. The General Construction Loan of 1931 contained an appropriation of \$15,000.00 for the purchase of a locomotive for Springfield State Hospital. A committee consisting of Humphrey D. Wolfe,

Frank B. Beasman and Doctor E. P. Bledsoe, had investigated several locomotives and have come to the conclusion that the one best suited for use at the Hospital was a 35 Ton Plymouth Model manufactured by The Fate-Root-Heath Company, at a price of \$12,890.00 net, taking the old locomotive in trade.

Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, State Purchasing Agent, was present, and while he said he did not have any objection to the Board approving the purchase, he reminded the Board of a resolution passed sometime ago, under which the locomotive should have been purchased through the Central Purchasing Bureau. He said he could not approve the purchase because he had not been consulted, and had not had anything to do with the selection, but that he was willing to release the item for approval by the Board.

After considering the matter the Board of Public Works decided to approve the purchase of the locomotive, but directed the Secretary in notifying the Springfield State Hospital of the approval to call attention to the fact that the resolution previously passed by the Board, of which the Hospital had knowledge, was disregarded, and that a repetition of the incident should not occur again.

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Mr. Albert Diggs, representing the Grinnell Sprinkler System, appeared before the Board, and stated he objected to the State doing part of the work in connection with the installation of a sprinkler system at the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium, for which his company had the contract. He stated it was his opinion that the work reserved by the State could not be done as well by the men whom the State would employ as by the men to be employed by the Sprinkler Company, and that there was also a possibility of labor trouble arising where part of the work was done by men not affiliated with the Union, to which mechanics installing the work belong.

Mr. Hall, of the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering of the State Department of Health, was present, and he and Mr. Kirkman assured the Board that the work reserved by the State could be done satisfactorily and at less cost, and that they would accept the responsibility for it.

The Board decided to accept the judgment of Mr. Kirkman and Mr. Hall in the matter, and authorized them to proceed with the work on the basis outlined by them.

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The following letter from Mr. H. C. Byrd, Assistant to the President, University of Maryland, College Park, was read and considered:

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

April 21, 1932.

Mr. Joseph O'C. McCusker, Comptroller,  
Union Trust Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

In the Bond Issue of the 1931 Legislature two of the items were \$10,000 for Improvements to the Men's Recreational Field, and \$15,000 for General Work on the Campus and Equipment.

The Board of Regents at its recent meeting decided to recommend to the Board of Public Works the allocation of these items as follows:

\$15,000 FOR GENERAL CAMPUS WORK AND EQUIPMENT:

To be expended for grading and finishing work  
around the Girls' Field House and making fill  
for Girls' Recreational Field. . . . . \$4,500.

For reerecting gateway and wall along the  
front of the campus and for grading, land-  
scaping and laying of walk along the front  
of the campus . . . . . 9,800.

Balance in the fund . . . . . 700.

\$10,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MEN'S RECREATIONAL FIELD:

Construction of 20 tennis courts at approximately  
\$450 per court . . . . . 9,000.

Construction of Board Running Track, Jumping  
and Vaulting Pits and Hand ball Court for men . . 700.

Balance in fund . . . . . 300.

Will you please bring these items up for approval of  
the Board.

Sincerely,

/s/ H. C. Byrd.  
H. C. Byrd.  
Assistant to the President.

After due consideration the arrangement of funds outlined in Mr.  
Byrd's letter was approved.

The following letter from the Office of Joseph Evans Sperry, Architect, dated April 14th, 1932, was read and considered:

JOSEPH EVANS SPERRY  
ARCHITECT  
409 CALVERT BUILDING  
BALTIMORE MARYLAND

April 14, 1932.

The Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Attention Mr. Joseph McCusker.

Gentlemen-

SUBJECT: Additions to "Hugh Young Building and  
Equipment" and "Stokers for Power Plant"

The proposals for the Additions to the "Hugh Young Building" for the Crownsville State Hospital (copy of all proposals enclosed) were received and opened by the Board of Managers at this office Wednesday, April 13, 1932.

We were instructed to submit to you for your approval and ratification their recommendation of accepting the proposal of the lowest contractor, provided he could furnish sub-contractors suitable to this office.

By accepting the lowest proposal, the total cost will be as follows;

North-Eastern Construction Company.....	\$99,383.00
Painting Old Building.....	600.00
	<u>\$99,983.00</u>
Elevator.....	\$4,973.00
Screens.....	3,210.00
Sterilizers.....	1,966.00
X-Ray Equipment.....	3,000.00
	<u>13,149.00</u>
	\$13,149.00
Approximate cost of Equipment (proposals yet to be received) which includes increasing Power Plant, Laundry, Pumps and other appliances necessary for the above addition.....	<u>112,500.00</u>
Architects', Engineer's Fee, Surveys and Extra	225,632.00
Drawings (approximately).....	<u>13,900.00</u>
	239,532.00
Appropriation.....	\$242,000.00
Less sale of Bonds-approx....	<u>10,000.00</u>
	232,000.00
Balance of 1929 appropriation.	<u>8,090.00</u>
	240,090.00

We are anxious to have your approval on the above as soon as possible, and will hold ourselves in readiness to appear before you should you desire any further information.

Very truly yours,

OFFICE OF JOS. EVANS SPERRY

HGC.VC

By /s/ Herbert G. Crisp.

The Board had previously given this matter informal consideration and had authorized Crownsville State Hospital to proceed in the manner outlined in Mr. Crisp's letter, and the action of the Board today was merely to record in a formal way what had been previously done.

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*"Barrett School for Girls"*

The Secretary presented to the Board bill of Washington Pump and Well Company of March 31, 1932, in the amount of \$1,155.25, covering the cost of drilling a well on property near Woodstock, Howard County, Maryland, which had been considered as a site for the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls. The well was drilled for the purpose of ascertaining if an adequate supply of water could be obtained on the property. It was decided that sufficient water could not be obtained, and the site was abandoned.

The Board authorized the payment of the bill of the Washington Pump and Well Company, payable out of the appropriation to the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls in the General Construction Loan of 1931.

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The following letter from the Board of Welfare was read and considered:

BOARD OF WELFARE

April 5th, 1932.

Mr. J.O. McCusker, Clerk,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

I am asking for approval of contract with J. George Bensel Co. for alterations to the hospital and other parts of the Maryland House of Correction, Jessups, Maryland. His bid was \$18,997.00 and in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by Henry G. Perring, Architect, and upon his recommendation, the award was made.

The contract and bond have been approved by Hon. Willis R. Jones, Deputy Attorney-General of Maryland. The other bidders were as follows:

M. A. Long Co.	\$29,200.00
Consolidated Engineering Co.	28,000.00
Lacchi Construction Co.	21,990.00
Davis Construction Co.	23,450.00
P. C. Street Engineering Co.	20,100.00
Herbert J. West	19,783.00
Northeastern Construction Co.	21,111.00
L. L. Chambers, Inc.	26,500.00
J. George Bensel Co.	18,997.00

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert D. Case.  
Secretary.

RDC/H

The Board approved the awarding to J. George Bensel Company of contract for alterations to the Hospital and other parts of the Maryland House of Correction at their bid of \$18,997.00.

The Board stated, however, that the Board of Welfare should be notified that no contract should be entered into by the Board of Welfare with contractors before first securing the approval of the Board of Public Works.

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The following letter from the Board of Welfare was read and considered:

BOARD OF WELFARE

April 5th, 1932.

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Clerk,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

I am asking for approval of contract with the Van Dorn Iron Works Co. for the steel jail work to the alterations to the hospital and other parts of the Maryland House of Correction, Jessups, Maryland. Their bid was \$3,529.50 and in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by Henry G. Perring, Architect, and upon his recommendation, the award was made. The contract and bond have been approved by Hon. Willis R. Jones, Deputy Attorney-General of Maryland. The other bidders were as follows:

Pauly Jail Building Co.	\$5,238.00
Stewart Iron Works Co.	4,898.00
B. Fires & Sons	5,734.00
Roanoke Iron & Bridge Works Co.	5,700.00
Van Dorn Iron Works Co.	3,529.50

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert D. Case.  
Secretary.

R.D.C/H

The Board authorized the Board of Welfare to enter into a contract with the Van Dorn Iron Works Company for the steel jail work to the alterations to the hospital and other parts of the Maryland House of Correction at their bid of \$3,529.50.

The Board stated, however, that the Board of Welfare should be notified that no contract should be entered into by the Board of Welfare with contractors before first securing the approval of the Board of Public Works.

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The following letter from the Maryland Training School for Boys was read and considered:

MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS

April 28, 1932

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Chief Deputy Comptroller,  
State House,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

Under date of March 28th, I wrote you asking authority to divide the moneys returned to the New Barn account as follows: \$1800.00 for the construction of a Farm Shop and Classroom Building, and \$2883.94 for the construction of a New Swine House. Under date of March 31st you wrote me advising me that this request would be presented to the Board of Public Works as soon as possible.

I am writing at this time to ask whether or not authority has been granted for the use of the moneys as outlined above.

I have the design for the Farm and Classroom Building practically completed and should like to start on this

structure in the relatively near future.

Very truly yours,

/s/ James A. Pratt.  
James A. Pratt,  
Superintendent.

JAP/N

The Board authorized the Maryland Training School for Boys to use the balance of money remaining unexpended in the New Barn Account so that \$1800.00 would be available for the construction of a Farm Shop and Classroom Building, and \$2883.94 for the construction of a New Swine House.

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The Secretary submitted to the Board application received from A Century of Progress covering space reserved by the State at the International Exposition in Chicago in 1933. The Governor signed the application as Chairman of the Board of Public Works, and stated that the officials of A Century of Progress should be advised that no funds for the payment of the space are available at this time, but that he would include in the budget he will prepare to be submitted to the General Assembly of 1933 an appropriation covering the amount necessary for the rental of the space and for the exhibit the State will have.

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The following letter from the Board of Welfare was read and considered:

BOARD OF WELFARE

March 23, 1932.

Mr. Joseph A. McCusker,  
Secretary,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

We are asking for approval of contract with the Pamfilis Contracting Company in the sum of \$528.00 for the repainting and cleaning of the 100,000 gallon water tank at the Maryland House

of Correction, Jessups, Maryland.

There were seven bidders on this job and the Pamfilis Contracting Co. were the lowest. The award was made in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the State Department of Health and upon their recommendations. The contract and bond have been approved by Hon. Willis R. Jones, Deputy Attorney-General. Payment to be made from the Loan Construction of 1929.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert D. Case.  
Secretary.

RDC/H

The Board authorized the Board of Welfare to enter into a contract with the Pamfilis Contracting Company in the sum of \$528.00 for the work outlined in the foregoing letter.

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The following letter from the Board of Welfare was read and considered:

BOARD OF WELFARE

March 23, 1932.

Mr. Joseph O. McCusker,  
Secretary,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

In reply to your letter dated March 22nd, concerning the approval of the Stark Electric Co. and the Garrison Fire Detecting System for contracts at the Maryland Penitentiary, Baltimore, Maryland, I beg to advise you that the bid on the electric work is as follows:

Electromechanical Co.	\$1,567.00
Holmes Electric Co.	1,555.00
Stark Electric Co.	1,490.00

The award was made to the lowest bidder-the Stark Electric Co. in accordance with plans and specifications.

The award for the installation of fire Detecting devices was made to the Garrison Fire Detecting System in accordance with the plans and specifications of Henry G. Perring, Engineer and Architect. There was no other bidder on this contract. From study made this system was selected.

Both G. E. Painter Co. and Henry G. Perring are employed by this Department. The contracts have also been approved as to form by Hon. Willis R. Jones, Deputy Attorney-General.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert D. Case  
Secretary.

RDC/H

The foregoing letter from the Board of Welfare was written in reply to a letter which the Secretary of the Board of Public Works had addressed to the Board stating that information was desired showing what other bidders had submitted quotations for the work. After considering the matter the Board authorized the making of a contract with the Garrison Fire Detecting System and with the Stark Electric Company.

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The following letter from the State Department of Forestry was read and considered:

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

March 28, 1932.

The Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

The Department of Forestry submits for the approval of the Board of Public Works the purchase of a tract of 12,000 acres of forest land in Allegany County from the Allegheny Orchard Company at a price of \$1.75 per acre, or a total of \$21,000., to be paid out of the Construction Loan, 1931.

This tract is located in eastern Allegany County between the National Highway and the Potomac River, and between the Belle Grove State Forest of 2,500 acres and the Carpenter Tract, an area of 1,800 acres, which has been approved for purchase. It has been carefully examined by the Forestry Department and found to possess to a very high degree the requisites of an excellent state forest. It is a part of a large tract of 35,000 acres of mountain forest land, acquired for orchard development. After the expenditure of a considerable sum of money in developing the tract, it failed as an orchard proposition and the small percentage of land that was cut off has sprouted up in new growth and returned to forest.

The 12,000 acres is not in one solid block, but is in a number of smaller blocks, covering the lands of the large Marton tract and is capable of consolidation under favorable terms for the following reasons:

- (1) Of the 22,000 acres originally owned by individual lot owners, 3,550 acres were deeded by the lot owners to The Maryland Orchard Company in return for stock. Probably not over 500 acres of this has been developed as orchard property, and the balance either has become tax delinquent or can be bought at low price.
- (2) The remaining lot owners, comprising some 18,450 acres, have with very few exceptions made no use whatever of the property.
- (3) On the other half, the taxes have been paid, with no return and no prospect of operating such small areas, additional lots are being abandoned and becoming tax delinquent, thereby a liability to the county.
- (4) The tax delinquent land can be acquired from the county on very satisfactory terms at a nominal cost.
- (5) Therefore, the purchase of the 12,000 acres will place the State in a strategic position that will not only enable us to block in our present state forest holdings, but it will be possible eventually to block in a state forest of approximately 30,000 acres.

Furthermore, the County Commissioners of Allegany County, as well as a number of prominent citizens with whom I have talked, desire the State to take over this land for state forest purposes. There is no county in the State where there is a greater interest for the establishment of state forests.

#### Natural Advantages.

This is natural forest land, typical of the Allegheny Mountains, well-stocked with a timber growth of important commercial species. There is more of the valuable white pine on this area than in any other natural white pine area in the State. In addition to its timber producing value, the tract is traversed by Fifteen Mile Creek, Town Creek, together with numerous tributaries, which increase its scenic value and at the same time add to its value for watershed protection. In addition, it is better stocked with larger game, such as deer and wild turkey, than any other section of the State, and under state control, it will become an important hunting ground, where game and wild life may be conserved.

#### Improvements.

The whole tract was improved about twelve years ago with 100 miles of good roads, well laid out, and maintained in good condition. About half of this road mileage has been taken over by the County and is being maintained, while the remaining roads are usable. The 12,000 acres under consideration have the advantage of these roadways, which together with the National Highway on one side and the new state road crossing a portion of the other side, together with the Potomac River, the Western Maryland Railroad, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, just across the river, afford excellent transportation facilities. In addition, there are 40 drilled wells scattered over the entire tract, of which about one-fourth are on the tract under consideration. There are also a number of buildings on the property

that are usable. These improvements have a present value in developing the forest, worth several thousand dollars.

Very truly yours,

/s/ F. W. Besley.  
State Foester.

FWB/w

After due consideration the Board approved the plans outlined by Mr. Besley for the acquisition of the forest lands mentioned in the foregoing letter.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

*Joseph McElusker*  
Secretary.

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